ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

REFORMATORY SCHOOL

AT

YERAVDA

FOR THE

YEAR 1910.

BOMBAY
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS
1911

Digitized with financial assistance from the
Government of Maharashtra
on 11 July, 2017

No. 185 OF 1911.

From

N. M. PAJNIGAR, ESQUIRE, B.A.,

Superintendent, Yeravda Reformatory School;

To

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,

Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Yeravda Reformatory School,
14th February 1911.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following brief report of this Reformatory for the calendar year 1910 :—

Number in School.

2. (*a*) The year opened with 189 boys, of whom 164 were in the Reformatory and 25 were out on licenses. The number of new admissions in the course of the year was 48 and that of the boys recaptured from among those who had escaped in the preceding years was 7. The number of juveniles discharged during the same period was 37. Of these 30 had completed their sentence and 7 were released by order of Government for being over age. One juvenile was ordered to be released on the security of his parent under Section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code. Ten youths, all of whom had been licensed out, absconded and 1 died by accidental drowning. The number of boys under sentence of detention on the last day of the year was 195, of whom 33 were out on licenses. The average daily number for the year was 159·4. This has been rising steadily from year to year. It was 155·2 for the preceding year and 152 for the year before that.

(*b*) Of the 195 boys undergoing detention at the end of the year, 4 were under twelve years of age, 36 were under fourteen, 95 were under sixteen and 60 were either of, or over, sixteen years.

(*c*) Ninety-four of them were other Hindus, 40 Low-castes, 50 Mahomedans, 8 Bráhmans and 3 Christians. The proportions of the several races and castes were almost the same as in the previous years.

(*d*) Among these 195, 73 spoke Maráthi, 50 Gujaráti, 40 Hindustáni, 15 Sindhi, 8 Kánarese, 8 Telugu and 1 English.

(*e*) Of the 195 boys, 185 belonged to British Territory and the remaining 10 to the Nizám's Territory.

Admissions.

3. (*a*) Of the 48 new admissions, 2 were eleven years old, 4 were twelve years old, 17 were thirteen years old, 14 were fourteen years old, and 11 were fifteen years old. Nearly 88 per cent. were of the age of twelve years or upwards, while the number of boys under twelve was only 6 or about 12 per cent. This is as it should be, as it is not desirable that very young boys should be sent up to live in a Reformatory.

(*b*) Thirty-six of them, which is fully 75 per cent., had been convicted of theft, 5 of theft with house-breaking, 4 of being vagrants, 1 of passing counterfeit coins, 1 of rape and 1 of having failed to furnish security for good behaviour. The maximum value of stolen property in the 41 cases of theft was

Rs. 372. Among the other amounts of less value were 1 of Rs. 304, 1 of Rs. 272, 1 of Rs. 120, 8 of less than Rs. 100 but over Rs. 10 and 29 of Rs. 10 and under.

(*c*) Two of the 48 boys were sentenced to be detained for seven years, 11 for five years, 1 for four and a half years, 13 for four years, 1 for three years and a half, and 20 for three years.

(*d*) Nine of them came from Poona, 7 from Ahmedabad, 5 from Thána, 4 each from Dhárwár and Karáchi, 3 each from Bombay, Sholápur and Násik, 2 each from Bijápur, Belgaum and Sukkur, and 1 each from Ratnágiri, Nagar, East Khándesh and Jubbulpore.

(*e*) One of the 48 had three previous convictions, 7 had two previous convictions, 10 had one previous conviction and the remaining 30 were all first offenders.

(*f*) As regards literary qualifications only 6 of the 48 could read and write their vernacular, the remaining 42 being utterly illiterate.

Conduct and Punishment.

4. The behaviour of the generality of the boys was quite good as in the previous years, though, in a few cases to be presently related, it was anything but satisfactory. The number of offences for the year was 28 and the number of boys punished was 36. The principal offences, for which the punishment of flogging had to be inflicted were these :—9 of the licensed boys proved themselves unworthy of their trust and absconded from their employers, 6 of them and 1 out of those who had escaped in the preceding year were recaptured. Four inmates of the School of whom 2 had been recently recaptured made a plot to escape by breaking open the doors of their sleeping cells at night. Their plan was to get hold of some tools from the workshops for the purpose. But the discovery of one of the hidden tools betrayed the plot, and their object was frustrated. One boy in the book-binder's workshop took a fancy to experience what a poison was like by tasting an acid solution used for cleaning leather, and had it not been for the prompt measures taken to extract the poison, it would have cost him his life. Two boys, who were placed in charge of an exhibit of fruit at the last Flower Show, could not resist the temptation of helping themselves to it. One boy in the carpenter's class felt himself justified in damaging a customer's carriage which he had been set to repair to revenge himself on the maistri for a fancied injustice. Three boys were brought up for assaulting their fellows for imaginary rivalry or puerile jealousy. The remaining offences were of insolent behaviour, possession of prohibited articles, such as *biddis*, pice, etc., or other minor breaches of rules. These were punished by penal diet or a few cane-cuts on hand, from 6 to 12 at the most.

Discharged Juveniles.

5. (*a*) Of the 37 boys discharged during the year 12 had learnt gardening, 7 carpentry, 4 smith's work, 11 book-binding and type-setting and 3 painting and varnishing. Thirteen of them were discharged in the second half of the year, so that reports of their career which are obtained half-yearly had not become due at the end of the year. The information about the remaining 24 may be summarised as follows :—7 are occupied in trades, such as carpentry, book-binding and gardening, 5 are hand labourers, 7 are private servants, 2 were reconvicted, 1 died, and 2 cannot be traced.

(*b*) The information regarding the after career of the juveniles discharged in the three years preceding the year of report is tabulated in the appended statement, "Reformatory Schools—II," from which it will be observed that the total number of discharged boys for that period was 110; 3 of these remain unreported, 13 cannot be traced, 5 died, 3 have been reconvicted and 1 is said to be of bad character. Of the remaining 85, 35 are engaged in the trades learnt in the Reformatory and 50 in other industries, which gives 81 as the

percentage of youths earning an honest livelihood. The percentage of boys untraceable is a little less than 11 and that of boys unreported 3·6.

Licensed Boys.

6. (*a*) On the first day of the year of report there were 25 boys serving out on license and 44 new licenses were issued in the course of the year. Eighteen of the licensed boys had to be discharged owing to termination of their sentence, 7 escaped from their employers and 9 were returned to the Reformatory (6 for not giving satisfaction to their employers, 2 for bad health and 1 owing to the death of the employer). The number remaining out on license at the close of the year was 33. Fifteen of them were employed in carpentry, 4 as blacksmiths, 3 as bakers, 1 as a compositor, 1 as a painter, 1 as a shop-boy and 8 as gardeners. Three of these have now been out for more than one year, 9 for more than six months, 8 for over three months and 13 for less than three. Of the 18 licensed boys released during the year only 3 are still working at their employers' after their release.

(*b*) The employment of boys on outdoor work involving trust has worked with great success. Most of the Monitors are sent out in this way to carry letters and articles, to deposit the gratuity moneys in the Post Office or pay small amounts in the Treasury, to collect small bills and on all sorts of similar errands; and their faithful performance of the work has been without a single exception till now. I find that these boys remain straight as long as they feel that they are under proper control. Once this sense of control is removed from their minds, they soon succumb to temptation.

Marks and Gratuity.

7. The monthly average number of boys who earned gratuity by their good behaviour and diligence was 158 for the year under report against 147 for the preceding year. The total amount of gratuity earned during the year was Rs. 458-2-6 and the amount disbursed to discharged boys was Rs. 327-3-6 against Rs. 424-1-6 and Rs. 318-12-3 respectively in the previous year, the average earning per boy being Rs. 8-13-3 against Rs. 7-3-11 in 1909.

Health and Sanitation.

8. The health of the boys throughout the year was very good. The number of cases treated during the whole year was 26. Of these 3 were of ague, 1 was of pneumonia, 1 of ulcer cornea, 1 of small-pox, 1 of measles, 1 of mumps, 1 of diarrhœa and 1 of syphilis, the rest being minor ailments. The boy who suffered from syphilis had contracted it during his escape from license. It is satisfactory to note that there was not a single case of dysentery during the year and there was only 1 case of diarrhœa. The daily average number of sick patients was 1·3 against 1·7 of the preceding year. In the month of January 1 boy died of accidental drowning while at work on the school farm.

(*b*) Major H. J. R. Twigg, I. M. S., the permanent Superintendent of the Yeravda Central Prison, having returned from leave in October last, has been supervising the medical work with his usual interest and energy since the above date. Until his return this work was done by his *locum tenens*, Captain C. S. Lowson, I. M. S. We are very much indebted to both these Officers for giving their skilled assistance and much valuable time to the institution whenever required.

Buildings and Accommodation.

9. There has been overcrowding from September, and accommodation had to be refused in 9 cases. The annual repairs and lime-washing to the existing buildings were carried out as usual by the Public Works Department. The final plans and estimates for new buildings according to the revised scheme

with the modifications proposed at the last annual meeting were approved and passed in October last. It is therefore hoped that their construc tion will be taken in hand in the current year.

Diet and Clothing.

10. Dress and diet continued to be the same as in previous years.

Industries.

11. (*a*) In this Reformatory the industries taught are gardening, carpentry, smithy, painting and varnishing and book-binding, instruction in which is given for four hours daily. To provide sufficient work for the boys in these several departments outside orders from private customers are taken, mostly for carpentry and book-binding. The number of books bound and repaired during the year was 29,443 and that of carriages repaired 113, besides boxes, chairs, stools, teapoys and many other articles of furniture made and repaired, the total number of which comes to 224. The gross value of manufactured articles for the year was Rs. 5,469-2-2 against Rs. 3,960-8-9 for the preceding year. The cost of raw materials came to Rs. 4,157-6-9 and the amount to be written off on account of depreciation of tools and plant, bad debts, etc., to Rs. 196-11-0. Deducting these from the gross value given above, the net earnings for the year amount to Rs. 1,115-0-5 against Rs. 914-1-5 of the previous year. The total number of boys engaged in the several trades was 85, of whom 27 were practising carpentry, 14 blacksmith's art, 14 painting and polishing and 30 book-binding.

(*b*) The value of garden produce for the year was Rs. 933-5-9, while the working expenses on the garden amounted to Rs. 159-10-6, leaving a balance of Rs. 773-11-3 as net profit from this branch of industry against Rs. 791-1-7, the profit of last year. The number of boys engaged in gardening was 77 of whom 22 were also learning horticulture.

(*c*) At the last year's Flower Show of the Agri-Horticultural Society, this Reformatory got a first prize for Begonias and two prizes for vegetables and fruit. Also the pots of yellow chrysanthemums shown by us received high commendation.

Maintenance Charges.

12. The gross maintenance charges for the year amounted to Rs. 22,610-7-5 against Rs. 21,689-11-3 for the preceding year, the increase being due mainly to the increased number of inmates throughout the year. The total profit for the year as shown in the preceding paragraph was Rs. 1,888-11-8. The contributions from Native States for the boys belonging to their territories amounted to Rs. 1,682-3-5 and the realizations from other miscellaneous receipts to Rs. 4-14-1. Hence the net charge to Provincial Funds for maintaining the institution during the year 1910 was Rs. 18,834-10-3.

Establishment.

13. The only changes in the establishment which remained at the same strength as in the previous year, were the transfer of the Head Master, Mr. K. V. Ghumare, to the Agricultural School, the appointment of the First Assistant Master of this School as Head Master in his place and the appointment of a new First Assistant, Mr. B. V. Ghumare, a trained teacher from one of the Local Board Schools of this district.

Education.

14. (*a*) The Deputy Educational Inspector, Poona, examined the School on 21st July and declared the results to be good. Out of the 90 boys examined in Standards I to V 77, *i.e.*, 85·5 per cent. passed in all heads and in the Beginners' Class, out of 33 boys, 31 did well.

The work of the teachers was pronounced good.

(*b*) Thirteen candidates were sent up in August last for the First Grade Art Examination of the Sir J. J. School of Art and 5 for the Second Grade, of whom 5 passed in the former and 2 in the latter and were awarded certificates.

Exercise and Recreation.

Cricket, *atyápatyá* and such other native games were played by the boys during their hour of recreation in the afternoon daily. They had also school drill and gymnastics in addition as usual and were taken out on Sunday afternoons for long walks and on big holidays for sight-seeing, such as witnessing the New Year's parade, the Mohorrum procession, etc. The School elevens played during the last season three cricket matches of which they won two and were defeated in one.

Visiting Committee.

16. The monthly inspection of the Reformatory by the members of the Visiting Committee nominated for the purpose took place regularly each month of the year. Only one of these monthly meetings was without a quorum, *viz.*, that of the month of July. The general meeting of the Committee was held on 29th March to consider the annual report of the previous year and the plan of new buildings for the Reformatory. Among other officials, who visited the institution during the year, may be mentioned yourself, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Jackson, I. M. S., Major H. J. R. Twigg, I. M. S., and Captain C. S. Lowson, I. M. S., both the latter in their capacity of supervising Medical Officer of the School. Sirdár Coopooswami V. Mudliar, Sirdár Nowrosji Padamji and Ráo Bahádur Sitaram V. Patwardhan whose term as members of the Visiting Committee expired during the year were reappointed for a further period of two years on the Committee, and Mr. Abdullah Abdul Wahed of the firm of Messrs Ladha and Co., Poona, was appointed as the fourth non-official member in the place of Khán Sáheb Dorabji Dadabhai Boottee who died in August last, deeply regretted by all who knew him and most so by his colleagues of the Visiting Committee and the staff of this School. He had been a member of the Reformatory Committee since 1893 and took the keenest interest in all matters connected with the institution and its inmates.

In conclusion, I beg to acknowledge our obligation to Professor H. G. D. Turnbull of the Deccan College who very kindly sent some country sweetmeats for distribution among the pupils of the School on Christmas day as a token of his appreciation of the manner in which they did some work for him at his bungalow.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

N. M. PAJNIGAR,

Superintendent, Yeravda Reformatory.

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra on 11 July, 2017

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS—I.

Number in the School in 1910.

Schools	1
Pupils.	
Number on the first day of the year	189
Admitted during the year	48
Recaptured during the year	7
Discharged during the year	38
Escaped during the year	10
Died during the year	1
Number on the last day of the year	195
Education on admission.	
Able to read	29
Illiterate	166
Religion.	
Hindus	142
Mahomedans	50
Christians	3
Instruction.	
Taught agriculture	85
Taught other industries	110
	Rs. a. p.
Net expenditure	18,834 10 3

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS—II.

After conduct of boys discharged during the three years preceding the year of report.

1.	Total number discharged in the three years	110
2.	Number discharged who were taught agriculture	40
3.	Number in entry (2) occupied in agriculture	11
4.	Number who were taught other trades and handicrafts	70
5.	Number in entry (4) occupied in the trades and handicrafts taught them .	24
6.	Occupied in industries not taught them at school	50
7.	Re-convicted	3
8.	Of bad character	1
9.	Died	5
10.	Untraceable	13
11.	Unreported	3

N. M. PAJNIGAR,

Superintendent, Yeravda Reformatory.

LIBRARY OF THE BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

BOMBAY: PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS.